

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 10789 090821Z

13

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 080909Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0138

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 10789

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CB TS

SUBJECT: KHMER-ARAB RELATIONS

REF: BEIRUT 10787 (CABLE SENT TO SAME ADDRESSEES AFTERNOON SEPT 7)

1. KHMER PRIMIN BORET IS HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS RE PROCEEDING AS OUTLINED REFTEL. AFTER CONSIDERING MATTER MORE FULLY OVERNIGHT, HE NOW PROPOSES TRAVEL TO TUNIS SEPT 9, ENTER TUNISIA AS "PRIVATE CITIZEN" AND HOLD HIMSELF IN READINESS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WHATEVER PRIVATE OPPORTUNITIES MAY PRESENT THEMSELVES TO COUNTER GRUNK DELEGATION'S EFFORTS VIS-A-VIS HIGH LEVEL GOT OFFICIALS. PRIMIN BASES HIS PROPOSAL ON FOLLOWING FACTORS:

(A) GRUNK DEL'S ARRIVAL IN TUNISIA IS OBVIOUS TACTIC AIMED AT NEGATING EFFORTS BY KHMER ISLAMIC DELEGATIONS (DUE ARRIVE TUNIS SEPT 9) TO OBTAIN GOT SUPPORT FOR (OR AT MINIMUM ENSURE CONTINUED GOT NEUTRALITY RE RKG POSITION AT UPCOMING UNGA. SIHANOUK'S SUPPORTERS HAVE PULLED THIS SORT OF TRICK BEFORE IN OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES, AND PRIMIN BORET IS DETERMINED NOT TO LET THEM HAVE THEIR WAY THIS TIME. MOREOVER, PRIMIN POINTS OUT THAT GRUNK DELEGATIONS HAVE OFTEN "BULLED THEIR WAY" UNINVITED INTO OTHER COUNTRIES IN ORDER PLEAD THEIR CASE AT RKG'S EXPENSE, AND HE THEREFORE HAS NO SCRUPLES ABOUT USING SAME TACTIC AGAINST THEM IN TUNIS.

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(B) PRIMIN REGARDS KRG'S FIGHT TO RETAIN ITS UN SEAT AS SO

IMPORTANT THAT HE IS DETERMINED GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO OPPOSE GRUNK EFFORTS AIMED AT PRODUCING PRO-SIHANOUK TUNISIAN VOTE IN UNGA.

(C) PRIMIN AND GEN. SUTSAKHAN SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING ENTRY VISAS FOR TUNISIA FROM TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR BEIRUT SEPT 7, AND THEY THEREFORE SEE NO PROBLEM IN GAINING ENTRY TO TUNISIA, IF ONLY AS "PRIVATE CITIZENS". (WE WONDER IF GOT HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THEIR VISAS HAVE BEEN GRANTED.)

2. EMBOFF POINTED OUT TO PRIMIN BORET THAT IN VIEW OF TUNISIAN FONOFF'S NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OUTLINED PARA 1 TUNIS 5519, HIS ARRIVAL IN TUNIS COULD RESULT IN EMBARRASSMENT FOR GOT (NOT TO MENTION AMBASSADOR SEELYE) AND PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FROM RKG'S POINT OF VIEW. PRIMIN REPLIED THAT HE IS PREPARED ENTER TUNISIA "ABSOLUTELY INCOGNITO" AND DO NOTHING WHILE THERE THAT WOULD PROVE EMBARRASSING TO ANY PARTY CONCERNED. RKG, HE SAID, WOULD ENSURE THAT NO RPT NO PUBLICITY WILL BE GIVEN TO HIS VISIT NOW OR LATER. PRIMIN SAID HIS BEHAVIOR IN TUNISA WOULD THUS BE ENTIRELY DISCREET, ALTHOUGH HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT AMBASSADOR SEELY --BY SIMILARLY DISCREET EFFORTS, WHICH HE SUGGESTS BE MADE WITH COOPERATION OF MALAYSIAN AND INDONESIAN AMBASSADORS -- COULD ARRANGE FOR HIM TO SEE PRES. BOURGUIBA IN TOTAL PRIVACY FOR "TEN MINUTES". GIVEN SUCH OPPORTUNITY, PRIMIN IS CONVINCED HE CAN PLEAD RKG CASE EFFECTIVELY. IN ANY EVENT, AND EVEN IF IT SHOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO SPEAK WITH BOURGUIBA, PRIMIN FIGURES HE "WOULD HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE" BY DISCREET VISIT TO TUNIS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF FACT THAT AMEMBASSY TUNIS IS ALREADY INVOLVED IN THIS MATTER, PRIMIN BORET URGENTLY DESIRES AMBASSADOR SEELYE'S ADVICE RE FOREGOING. WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY SOONEST. VIEWS OF DEPT AND EMBASSY PHNOM PENH WOULD ALSO BE WELCOMED.

GODLEY

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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